

Public Affairs Guidance**13 March 2007**

4ID (M) Improvised Explosive Device Defeat (IEDD) Lane Training**1. References.**

- a. Policy on Discussion of IEDs and IED-Defeat Efforts in Open Sources, APR 24 2006, Deputy Secretary of Defense.
- b. OPSEC Guidance for IED Countermeasures – Memorandum #2, FEB 17 2006, U.S. Army FORSCOM

2. Background.

- ❖ 4ID lost 228 Soldiers during OIF 05-07; 159 of these Soldiers were killed by IEDs – nearly 70 percent.
- ❖ The CG 4ID directed the development of a comprehensive Improvised Explosive Device Defeat (IEDD) Training Strategy to prepare Soldiers, units, and staffs for combat operations in Iraq. The Strategy is two-fold and includes defeating the IED Network (Brigade and above) and defeating the device (TF and below).
- ❖ Public and media interest in the Improvised Explosive Device (IED) threat and the IED defeat efforts remains high
- ❖ The enemy has shown they glean substantial information through open sources on U.S. Army capabilities and weaknesses.
- ❖ Protecting Operational Security (OPSEC) and telling the Army story can be traversed by careful PA and operational planning and rehearsals.

3. Purpose. The CG's intent is to increase Soldier, Soldier Family and public support in our Division and Army by telling the story and showing – how the 4ID IEDD lane training is making an important difference in preparing all deploying Soldiers and units to survive the IED threat in Iraq.**4. PA Approach.** PA Posture for the 4ID IEDD lane training is active. Every Soldier is an Army spokesman. Every Soldier needs to understand the importance of IEDD training. However, the 4TH Inf. Div. Team of Soldiers, Soldier Families and Civilians must practice OPSEC at the source to protect information about our capabilities and weaknesses.**5. Theme.** We understand the IED threat and we're doing something about it.**6. Public Statement. QUOTE** The 4th Infantry Division Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Lane Training will prepare Soldiers, units, and staffs for combat operations in Iraq. The training replicates conditions in Iraq and will assist platoon and section leadership develop skills and procedures that will allow them to better survive the IED threat in Iraq. The endstate of the IEDD Lane Training is confident and competent Soldiers and small units trained on all aspects of IED Defeat operations.
UNQUOTE.

7. Key Messages.

- a. IEDs are the #1 killer of our Soldiers on the battlefield – IOT counter the threat – we must understand the threat.
- b. 4ID is taking this threat seriously – we built a world-class facility, replicating CTC technology – focused on the IED threat.
- c. We face an intelligent, adaptive and ruthless enemy – we need to stay ahead of him.
- d. Three ways to counter the IED threat in Iraq – properly equip and protect our Soldiers, train our Soldiers, and defeat the IED network (bomb financiers, suppliers and makers)
- e. The American Soldier is a national treasure – we need to do all we can to safeguard him.

8. Questions and Answers.**Q1. How will IEDD lane training save lives?**

A1. 4ID understands the threat – we also understand that we face an adaptive enemy. A world class IEDD lane training facility that incorporates lessons learned in Iraq will enable units and individuals to train/refine skills and procedures that will allow them to better survive the IED threat in Iraq.

Q2. What makes this IEDD lane training facility so important?

A2. We have an obligation to our Soldier Families and the American public to do all we can to safeguard the American Soldier. We honor that obligation by building a world class IEDD lane training facility and ensuring all our Soldiers execute the training.

Q3. What is the difference between this training and what 4ID did pre-deployment last time?

A3. The IED threat has evolved. The enemy has refined the way he operates and we are constantly refining ours to stay ahead of the threat. The current FHTX IED-D Lanes training was built, based on lessons learned from our most recent deployment. The lanes replicate the current threat – and will assist our Soldiers in refining our TTPs – as well as identifying enemy TTPs. The end result of this training will save Soldier lives and that makes it priceless.

Q4. Is there a similar capability at FCCO?

A4. There is a similar IED-Defeat Lanes Training capability at Fort Carson.

9. Miscellaneous information.

- a. In order to achieve the CG's intent – we need to both tell the story and visually show our target audiences. Units going through IEDD Lanes Training will identify a leader and a Soldier to talk to the news media and visiting dignitaries about the IEDD Lane training and IED defeat tenets without violating OPSEC.
- b. 4ID Commanding General will approve all VIP visits and news media coverage of the FHTX IEDD Lane Training. Information on IEDD Lane Training for external release will go through the 4ID Public Affairs Office.

- c. Practice OPSEC at the source:
 - (1) Safeguard friendly Tactics – Techniques and Procedures.
 - (2) Do not discuss enemy TTPs and/or their effectiveness.
 - (3) Discuss personal protective gear and equipment; however, do not discuss capabilities and/or vulnerabilities of our equipment.
 - (4) Do not discuss Counter-IED technology, i.e. CREW.
10. **Points of contact** – LTC Steve Stover, Division Public Affairs Officer, 254-287-5763, steven.stover@us.army.mil.